SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: I would like to know whether the NMEEE has set out a comprehensive strategy to create demand for energy efficient projects, goods and services among Government policies and programmes to integrate energy efficiency process and prepare bankable projects to stimulate the Mission? If so, are were the other decisions taken? What steps are being taken to improve energy efficiency?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: A new energy efficiency programme is coming up in the country and for that, naturally, great amount of resources, around Rs. 74,000 crores, are required. A public-private partnership kind of a system is being evolved. There are two mechanisms for that. One is PRGF and the other is venture capital fund, which would, definitely, promote the scheme. Generally, we are not sure how much energy we will be able to save after investing certain amount of money. For that we need to create confidence. In order to create confidence, naturally these partial risk guarantee funds are created. For funding also, public-private partnership is being created by which resource mobilisation will be done. In the coming five years, in 2014, this scheme will be implemented.

Appointment of judges in higher judiciary

*250. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRI N. K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring changes in the procedure of appointment of judges to the higher judiciary and also intends to come out with a comprehensive Bill to deal with complaints of corruption against judges;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the procedure of appointment of judges would be strengthened to ensure that corrupt or tainted judges are not given promotion, etc.; and

(d) if so, to what extent the complaints of corrupt judges would be looked after expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The existing procedure for appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts is based on the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 in the case of Supreme Court Advocates on Record and Anr. *Vs*. Union of India, and the Advisory Opinion of the Supreme Court dated October 28, 1998. There is no proposal at present before the Government to reconsider this procedure.

The Government is considering to bring in a new legislation on the subject of Judicial standards and Accountability of Judges. The details of the Bill are being worked out.

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††The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri N.K. Singh.

SHRI N.K. SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the light of the recent statement by the hon. Chief Justice of India that the Collegium system needed major modifications in the selection process, is the hon. Minister contemplating any major significant changes in the process for making selection to the higher judiciary?

SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a matter which is engaging the attention of the Parliamentarians in the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee, and it is also being debated among the jurists. But the Government has not taken any view on this, and I will not be in a position to give a positive reply with regard to the next step to be taken in this sector.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Infrastructure projects running behind schedule

*243. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN:
SHRI N. R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 50 per cent of the infrastructure projects are running behind schedule, resulting in an extra burden of Rs. 40,000 crores on the exchequer;

(b) whether 423 projects out of 925 projects, each costing 20 crores or more have failed to meet the deadline and majority of them are road and power projects;

(c) if so, the details thereof, project-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the reasons for the delay and the steps taken by Government to complete these projects in time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As on 30.06.2009, out of 951 Central Sector projects costing Rs.20 crore and above on the monitor of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme implementation, 466 projects, which is about 49%, have been delayed with respect to their approved completion schedule. The cost overrun in these delayed projects is of the order of Rs. 37693 crore. Majority of these delayed projects are in Road Transport and Highways, Railways, Coal, Steel, Petroleum and Natural Gas and Power Sectors. The details of 466 delayed projects State-wise/Sector-wise are given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 218 Annexure No. 7]

(d) The main reasons for delay in ongoing projects include: slow progress by contractors due to labour supply and financial problems, fund constraints, delay in land acquisition, delay in supply of equipment by indigenous and foreign suppliers, law and order problems, geological problems, inadequate infrastructure etc. The steps taken by the Government to complete the ongoing projects, *inter alia* include: